

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 281664

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, EEC, CY

SUBJECT: BELGIAN EC PRESIDENCY: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
ON CYPRUS

REF: BRUSSELS 16584, BRUSSELS 16956
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1. YOU MAY PASS FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATON ON OUR
CURRENT CYPRUS POLICY TO THE BELGIAN EC PRESIDENCY, IN
ACCORDANCE WITH REFTEL REQUEST. IN ADDITION, YOU MAY WISH
INDICATE THAT DEPTOFFS LEDSKY AND EWING (EUR/SE) WILL BE IN
BRUSSELS DEC. 3-6 AND WOULD BE PLEASED EXCHANGE VIEWS IN-
FORMALLY WITH BELGIAN MFA RE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN DEVELOP-

MENTS.

2. WE HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED BY THE RELATIVE FLEXIBILITY ON CYPRUS MATTERS THAT THE TURKS HAVE DEMONSTRATED OVER THE PAST SIX WEEKS OR SO. WE HAVE WORKED CLOSELY WITH THEM ON THE CYPRUS MISSING PERSONS ISSUE AND, IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER THIS PARTICULAR EFFORT MEETS WITH SUCCESS, WE BELIEVE THAT THEY HAVE EXHIBITED A GENUINE DESIRE FOR COMPROMISE ON THIS ISSUE. WE HAVE ALSO BEEN ENCOURAGED BY THE POSITIVE STATEMENTS THAT THE TURKS HAVE MADE IN SUPPORT OF A RESUMPTION OF NEGOTIATIONS, THE MORE MODERATE TONE ADOPTED BY THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS IN THE LAST 4-6 WEEKS, AND THE MODEST TROOP WITHDRAWALS THE TURKS HAVE UNDERTAKEN.

3. IT IS OUR HOPE THAT THIS FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE WILL CARRY OVER INTO THE CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS THEMSELVES, AND WE PLAN TO TALK WITH THE TURKS IN BRUSSELS DURING THE NATO MINISTERIAL WITH A VIEW TO ASCERTAINING THEIR INTENTIONS SHOULD TALKS RESUME. IF THEIR RESPONSES ARE ENCOURAGING, WE WOULD THEN CONSIDER WHETHER TO PUSH FOR AN EARLY RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. IN THE LIGHT OF PAST FAILURES AND DISAPPOINTMENTS, WE RECOGNIZE THAT IT WILL NOT BE EASY TO GET TALKS RESTARTED. THE UN AND THE GREEK CYPRIOTS ARE RELUCTANT TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS UNLESS IT CAN BE ADEQUATELY DEMONSTRATED THAT NEW AND WORKABLE PROPOSALS WILL BE PUT ON THE TABLE BY THE TURKISH SIDE, AND THAT

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SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS CAN THEN TAKE PLACE. WE WILL THEREFORE ONLY GO TO THE UN AND THE GREEK CYPRIOTS WHEN WE OURSELVES ARE REASONABLY CONFIDENT THAT THESE CONDITIONS CAN BE SATISFIED.

4. DEPARTMENT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING COPY OF EXPERTS' PAPER ON PROBLEMS OF THE AEGEAN SEA THAT THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS APPROVED NOVEMBER 16-17 (PARA 3, REFTTEL) OR RECEIVING BRIEFING ON CONTENTS OF THAT PAPER.

5. FOR PARIS, LONDON, BONN. ASSISTANT SECRETARY VEST EXPECTED TO DISCUSS CYPRUS AND RELATED QUESTIONS WITH HIS COUNTERPARTS WHILE IN EUROPE THIS WEEK. WE WOULD THEREFORE SUGGEST YOU NOT PROVIDE FURTHER BRIEFING TO FOREIGN MINISTRIES ON BASIS THIS CABLE. YOU MAY, HOWEVER, WANT TO INDICATE THAT LEDSKY AND EWING WILL BE IN BRUSSELS DURING PART OF WEEK OF DECEMBER 5 AND WOULD BE PLEASED INFORMALLY EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH APPROPRIATE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS SHOULD THEY BE IN BRUSSELS AT THAT TIME. SUCH A MEETING FOR EXAMPLE, WITH QUAI OFFICIAL (BLOT) WOULD ALLOW DISCUSSION OF QUESTIONS RAISED PARIS 31439 (EXDISNOTAL). VANCE

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